

THE MONTHLY CABLE



Peggy's Purls By Peggy Baxter

Greetings from Stitches West! No, actually I am home now but I wanted you all to know how much I wished that every ESSS member could have been in attendance. So much to see, learn and BUY! My classes were really good and yes, I hope to teach you some of what I learned in April. Oh yes, Southwest airlines gave me a BRAND NEW shiny red hard shell suitcase.....will tell you about that at the March meeting. The only bad part about Stitches West is it completely wears you out....your brain is on overload and your mind is swirling with ideas about the MANY future projects you want to make. The fashion show was very inspirational and guess who won a \$100 gift certificate at the banquet???? LOVED the student fashion show. I am always amazed at how talented "non-professionals" are. Karen E, Olga, and myself (I hope I didn't forget anyone, but I was on severe allergy meds, thus my memory about Stitches is NOT at its best) represented ESSS in the fashion show and for those of you who remember Karen

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George, well, she modelled as well. I understand I left you in very good hands with Peggy A. Charlene took great minutes and I'm sure there was much help and learning happening during the program. I have been in contact with Myra Wood and I am so glad that Peggy A brought a card for you to sign during the meeting. I passed around one at Stitches, so I'm sure Myra feels the love from ESSS. Looking forward to seeing you either at Sit n Knit (March 13) or at our March meeting.
Peggy B.

March Program Notes

By Stephanie Baxter and Ann Wicker

Decorative Cast Ons

ESSS program for March 19, 2016, presented by Joan Whitten

Supplies: 3 different colors of smooth yarn, appropriate sized knitting needles (1 circular will do or a pair of straights and a pair of DPNs), and a crochet hook about the same size as the knitting needles.

Homework: Be familiar with both the Knitted and the Long Tail cast ons.

Here are youtube videos to review if you need help:

Knitted: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xocjmpgIM1Q>

Long Tail: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kn4rcAnnS7U>

February recap

By Laura Stone

There was a small but enthusiastic group that stayed for the ESSS February UFO Program. There was discussion about the ongoing CAL/KAL, with several examples of the crocheted Virus shawl for viewing, and Carol H was wearing her completed knitted Blubb, Blubb, Blubb shawl. Questions about the charted crochet pattern were answered by Kim B, and Carol explained how the holes in the knitted shawl were made. Kim then showed us how to do a Russian Join when adding new yarn – quite magical! Carol demonstrated how to do the Icelandic bind-off that she had used for her KAL shawl – this bind-off provides a bit of stretch and a nice rounded look. Kim also showed us a slick shortcut for doing a SSK (slip-slip-knit) stitch that reduces the movements involved in the stitch. We all came away with new tricks up our sleeves and with a few more stitches into our UFOs. Thank you to all who participated and to Kim and Carol for sharing their tips and tricks!

Laura

Next Meeting: **March 19, 2016**
10.30 am – 1.30 pm at the Joslyn Center

First CAL/KAL 2016

By Kim Burk

Let's hope this is a Year of BIG Things! (All good, of course), and kick it off with a KAL / CAL of shawls that feature BIG holes! We can share our shawls at the March meeting. First off is the (free) crocheted, Virus Shawl.

<http://www.ravelry.com/patterns/library/virus-shawl---virustuch>

This pattern is done from chart only. On the Ravelry pattern page, there's a link to her blog. Scroll down just a bit to the pink ombre shawl. Click on the link. It says it's the written pattern, but you'll get the chart.

Only four rows of repeat. No fancy increases. If you can count to 4, 7 and 10, you've got this one down! Repeat the four rows as many times as you like until it's the size you want.

Do NOT choose the pattern by Orchidee flower. I've heard she took this non-copyright, vintage stitch pattern, called it her own, and her pattern is difficult to work from!

There's a separate pattern that someone worked out for a Scallop Border for Virus Shawl, but I wanted something lacier, so I simply added a 3 chain picot in between the last row of dcs.

I made this one with 4 colors of worsted Lion Brand Amazing from my stash, but you could use a fingering or sock yarn and make a lacier version.

For the KAL, I found a free pattern in my faves, a knit shawl with BIG holes, called Blubb, Blubb, Blubb.

<http://www.ravelry.com/patterns/library/blubb-blubb-blubb>

I'm making my shawl with size 3 needles and Mini Mochi, because I'm curious to see how this looks in a long color changing yarn, but again, you can use any yarn/needles you like! Check out the projects made in this pattern for more ideas.



Virus Shawl



Blubb Blubb Blubb Shawl

Membership Update

By Laura Geisel

We had 41 members in attendance during the February meeting, with 1 guests.

We now have 137 current members.!

ROAD TRIP!!

By Nancy Livingstone

Have you ever wondered where the beautiful yarns you use to create your fabulous projects come from? Join the El Segundo Slipt Stitchers for the Highland Springs Resort (<http://www.hsresort.com>) Annual Sheep Shearing Event and find out!

Seats are going fast so sign up ASAP! You don't want to miss this fun day with your wooly friends.

The details:

- Sunday, March 20th, 2016
- Leave Joslyn Center in El Segundo at 9:00am
- Sheep Shearing Event from 11:00am – 2:00pm (see flyer) ([http://www.hsresort.com/images/events/Sheep Shearing 2016-4.pdf](http://www.hsresort.com/images/events/Sheep%20Shearing%202016-4.pdf))
- Return to El Segundo 4:30pm (Time approximate... depending on traffic)
- Cost: Total costs are for the bus ride and entrance fee to the event. Meals are not included in the cost. The bus ride is \$20 for members; \$25 for guests. The entrance fee for the event is \$12 for adults and \$8 for students 6–17yrs old. Children 5 and under get in free! NO PETS ARE ALLOWED. Please email Ann Wicker to sign up at wicker123@ca.rr.com. Payment can be made to our Treasurer Peggy Avellar at Sit & Knit on March 13, 2016 or at the Guild meeting on March 19, 2016.- Meals: Meals are not provided but feel free to bring your own for an informal picnic, or take advantage of the restaurant on site.

The Grand Oak Steakhouse will be offering 10% off on a single brunch item. Several fun events will be taking place during the day:

- Live sheep shearing and skirting of fleeces
- Kids wool crafts
- Wool processing demonstrations
- Natural dyes
- Hand spinning demos and try your hand at using a drop spindle
- Feed the sheep

And of course there will be opportunities to shop!!

Vendors include a goat milk soap company; the ladies who teach drop spindle; and yarn, teas, olive oil, herbs and other great products from the resort's own organic farm, and more.

Just to whet your appetite, here are a couple of videos about the farm's sheep and yarn production https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rKp8_1VFIAA and https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VdDkHIY_X4k

There's also a nice article about last year's event here <http://www.pe.com/articles/sheep-762851-farm-year.html>

Look forward to seeing everyone there!!



**Merilyn & Foxyknits thank you for your support at StitchesWest -we had a great show!
See you in May at Vogue Live Pasadena!**

Merilyn - Foxyknits

Upcoming Events

Event	Date	Location
March Sit and Knit	March 13th, 2016 12.30 – 3.30pm	Joslyn Center
sheep ranch road trip,	March 20	Highland Springs Ranch
Yarn Crawl,	April 14-17	Los Angeles Area
Vogue Knitting Live	May 13-15	Pasadena
2016 YKGA Conference	July 13-16 2016	Charleston, South Carolina

Charity Report

By Catherine McFarlane

Reported at the February meeting by Elaine Mullin on behalf of Cathy McFarlane.

Our great charity work continues. In January we donated a total of 145 items, 5 blankets, 7 animal blankets, 11 baby blankets, 1 quilt, 54 hats, 23 toys, 8 sweaters, 30 scarves / cowls, 6 pairs slippers.

This gives us a year to date total 298 items. The contributions were to 8 different charities.

There are many ways of reporting your charity donations: The Charity Donations thread on the Sliptstitchers' Ravelry group; the donations sheet at the meeting; Email catherinemcfarlane@sbcglobal.net.

PEGGY A WRITES:

I want to thank all of you who attended the last Guild meeting. Your support was greatly appreciated. I am looking forward to our Road Trip on March 20th. I will have the sign-up sheet at Sit n Knit. It was also nice to see the finished Virus shawl and Blub Blub Blub shawl. I have to finish mine. See you at Sit n Knit or the Guild meeting.

Notice Board

PEGGY B WRITES:

Would you like to be on TV?

During ESSS's next Sit 'n Knit, March 13, El Segundo's TV crew will join us to check us out and interview some of us.

Please attend if you can (especially El Segundo residents) AND bring any completed charity items as well as your WIP.

June Ling Writes:

I found a useful website if you want to substitute yarns. It's yarn-sub.com. You can enter the yarn you want to sub and they will list yarns that are similar. There are also an interesting article on what to consider when substituting and characteristics of different yarns.

Birthdays

March

Beverly Sandford 3/2	Barbara Marpe 3/3	Carol Hayes 3/4
Ema Koppelman 3/4	Victoria Fontana 3/6	Bebe Thomas 3/8
Rita Levin 3/11	Laura Geisel 3/12	Carol Augustine 3/15
Karen La Belle 3/15	Blair Seibert 3/18	Julie Fielder 3/26

April

Karen Eakin 4/12	Dorothy Akiyama 4/13	Judy Fritz 4/13
Stephanie Baxter 4/17	Jeannette Hartman 4/20	Nancy Livingstone 4/20
Sachi Powell 4/21	Helga Breaux 4/26	Jacqui Gritsch 4/27
Fatima Wu 4/30		



**ESSS Guild members only sale at Maddie Made it
30% off the total purchase of yarn, needles and notions
for the first weekend of February (2/6 & 2/7/16) only.
Maddie Made It - 2929 Rolling Hills Road, Torrance, CA. 90505.**



February Meeting Minutes

President (Peggy B): Absent

Recording Secretary (Charlene K): January minutes approved as written

Corresponding Secretary (Sylvia G): Absent

Treasurer (Peggy A): Acting President: Meeting called to order. No new members. No guests. 41 members attended.

Presented Treasury Report: Beginning balance: \$9,962.18 / income \$215.25 / expenses \$636.73 / Ending balance as of February 20, 2016: \$9,540.70

Vice Presidents (Ann W & Stephanie B): Absent

Membership (Laura G): Absent

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Charities (Renee H & Cathy M): By Elaine Mullin on behalf of Cathy McFarlane. January total 145 items: 5 blankets, 7 animal blankets, 11 baby blankets, 1 quilt, 54 hats, 23 toys, 8 sweaters, 30 scarves/cowls, 6 pairs slippers. Total year to date: 298 items, contributions to 8 charities.

Merchandise (Sarah S): Working with Jackie to get all items on the website, has been taking photos. Will be out of town next month so if you need something she will bring it to Sit-N-Knit. Lenora will help.

Webmaster (Jackie B)

Raffle (Brandi D): Lots of good items! Be sure and get tickets for the raffle.

Newsletter (Sarah W): Peggy A. announced we have a new advertiser "Maddie Made It", ESSS members will receive a discount.

Photography (Jan S): Took pictures of "Show and Share"

Coffee & Refreshments (Ema K): Ema is out of town. Laura S picked up and took care of the coffee. Thanks to those who brought cookies.

Mentoring (Juhree B): Absent

Historian (Betty D): Absent

Hospitality (Toni S): "Welcome and thanks to all!"

El Segundo Liaisons (Julia M & Laura S): Laura reserved the room through June and is reserving through September. Debbie's (the Joslyn Center receptionist) husband died. We will send a card.

KAL/CAL (Kim B): Brought copies of the patterns for anyone who needs them. A few members showed their progress and finished shawls.

Workshop (Nancy L.): Brought a sign-up sheet with a copy of the information for our Sunday, March 20th road trip. Cost is \$20 for members, \$25 for non-members, give money to Peggy A. Nancy is reserving a 56-passenger bus, we will meet at Joslyn Center leaving at 9:00 am. The show is from 11:00 am – 2:00 pm; at Highland Springs Resort in Cherry Valley. \$12.00 to get into the ranch. An e-mail reminder will be sent out.

OLD BUSINESS: No old business

NEW BUSINESS:

March program will be taught by Joan W; decorative cast-ons. Bring 3 different colors of yarn/appropriate needles/at least 1 set of double pointed needles. A circular needle will work too. Myra Wood was diagnosed with breast cancer. We have a card to sign. Myra asked us to go to her website and download the chemo cap pattern, make one and donate to Halos For Hope. (SCH Knit Happiness Hat). Use soft yarns only, all information is on her website. We will have a link in the next newsletter.

ANNOUNCEMENTS / UPCOMING EVENTS:

March 13 sit-n-knit, Joslyn Center

March 20 sheep ranch road trip, Highland Springs Ranch

April 14-17 Yarn Crawl, Los Angeles Area

May 13-15 Vogue Knitting Live, Pasadena ("warnings" were given if you decide to volunteer/you will be taken advantage of) And tips for getting ½ price if you get on the mailing list.

RAFFLE (Toni S): Joan handled the drawings. Don't forget to bring something in next month if you won.

SHOW & SHARE

Elaine H: Vintage knit baby dress she wore, made by her Great Aunt.

Elaine B: Knit Easter items, chocolate rabbit, chicken, eggs (knit from last years yarn crawl)

Dorothy A: Quilted & woven vest/10-years ago she brought in the yarns & fabrics, asked for suggestions and now showed the finished item.

Lenora S: Knit & crochet "Cowloncho" can be worn as a cowl, poncho or shawl. Used Lace Lux yarn. Janice Y: Knit cowl, knit with Madelinetosh sport and Freia sport gradient. Free pattern on Ravelry "Eleanor Lace Cowl".

Ellen B: Crochet "Virus Shawl" because she won't be at next month's meeting.

Nancy L: Knit shawl "Demelza's Song", Ravelry pattern knit in Zen serenity worsted. Ellen showed hers too made in fingering weight.

Carol H: Knit shawl "Blubb, Blubb, Blubb" because she won't be at next month's meeting.

Cathy: Shared a kit from "Jimmy Beans Wool" monthly \$10 club. Talked

By Linda Jensen

about the knitting in "Eddie The Eagle" movie.

TODAY'S PROGRAM: UFO's, Laura Stone said this is a good time for any help and advice you need besides visiting. Kim Burk did a Russian Join demo.

Respectfully Submitted,
Charlene Kirkland

Yarn Store Review

By Jeannette Hartman

Tucked between a pharmacy and a you-sell real estate office in the San Fernando Valley is a fiber-lover's treasure trove: A Major Knitwork. Just as they sang on the TV show "Cheers": "Sometimes you want to go where everybody knows your name, and they're always glad you came . . ." the same applies at A Major Knitwork, 6746 Balboa Blvd., Van Nuys. You can sit and- knit on Tuesdays (4:30 to 6 p.m.) and Thursdays (2 to 4 p.m.) and walk into classes on Fridays from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. There are knit-alongs such as the Alla Fine Shawl or a brioche stitch hat. At any given session, you may find yourself sitting next to a fiber designer, experienced knitters, newbies or a knitter commissioned by a museum to knit a piece for its foyer.

The store was opened in 1984 by Sylvia Cooper and her daughter Debbie Cooper-Jaffe. Sylvia's mother was a crocheter. The aunt of a friend taught her how to knit after buying her a ball of yarn and a pair of needles. Every week when the aunt came to visit her niece she taught Sylvia a stitch or new technique. Sylvia's homework was to use up the ball practicing. The following weekend, she ripped out her work, rewound the ball and learned something new.

Debbie grew up around yarn, so becoming a fiber professional was a natural step. Sylvia and Debbie both worked at a shop that first focused on needlepoint and later knitting. And always they took classes in pattern design, knitting techniques and garment construction, fitting and finishing. After the owner of the store where they worked retired, they decided to open their own shop.

The stock ranges from high quality basic yarns for knitting and crocheting as well as high fashion yarns. The sample shawls, scarfs, hats and sweaters on display are stunning. They also offer a large selection of eye-catching buttons and shawl pins.

A Major Knitwork offers a range of classes from individual instruction to custom classes for a few people or group classes. Fees vary depending on the type of class and the materials needed.

The nearly 60 years of knitting experience that Sylvia and Debbie have really blossom in the services they offer. Whether it's help resurrecting unfinished objects (UFOs), finishing or putting together knitted or crocheted garments, creating patterns from an existing garment or a photograph or tweaking a pattern to get a perfect fit for your figure using your choice of yarn and your gauge, Sylvia and Debbie will make you feel like a master knitter.

You can keep up with A Major Knitwork on their website, on Ravelry or Facebook.

Website: <http://amajorknitwork.com>

Ravelry: <http://www.ravelry.com/groups/a-major-knitwork>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/AMajorKnitwork>

